

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 3, 2001
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2001
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 26, 2001

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1586

Introduced by Assembly Member Negrete McLeod

February 23, 2001

An act to add Sections 2425.1 and 2425.3 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to the healing arts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1586, as amended, Negrete McLeod. Healing arts: physicians and surgeons.

The Medical Practice Act provides for the licensure by the Medical Board of California of physicians and surgeons as well as other healing arts practitioners. The act requires each licensed physician to complete a questionnaire sent to him or her at the time of license renewal that seeks specified information.

This bill would additionally require each licensed physician to report to the board at the time of license renewal, any specialty board certification he or she holds and his or her practice status. The bill would authorize a physician to report to the board *his or her* cultural ~~or linguistic competency with regards to minority cultures or languages other than English~~. The bill would require the board to determine standards for cultural and linguistic competency for this purpose *background and foreign language proficiency*.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2425.1 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:
3 2425.1. *The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
4 *following:*
5 (a) *Currently, California is experiencing an access to health*
6 *care crisis that, in large measure, is the result of medical group*
7 *insolvency, health facility closures, low or no reimbursement rates,*
8 *and an increasing number of uninsured.*
9 (b) *Adding to the access to health care crisis is a state*
10 *population that is growing in cultural and linguistic diversity as*
11 *well as in absolute numbers.*
12 (c) *On paper, California appears to have an adequate number*
13 *of physicians in most areas of the state. California, however, does*
14 *not have data indicating the cultural and linguistic background of*
15 *licensed physicians, how many physicians are actively practicing*
16 *medicine, how many physicians are practicing part time, how*
17 *many physicians have retired from practice, or how many*
18 *physicians have moved into administrative positions and no longer*
19 *treat patients.*
20 (d) *In order to fully understand and cope with California's*
21 *access to health care crisis, it is necessary to collect data*
22 *concerning the status and scope of practice of California's*
23 *licensed physicians as well as his or her cultural and linguistic*
24 *background.*
25 SEC. 2. Section 2425.3 is added to the Business and
26 Professions Code, to read:
27 2425.3. (a) ~~A~~ *The Medical Board of California shall request*
28 *that a licensed physician shall report to the board at the time of*
29 *license renewal any specialty board certification he or she holds*
30 *issued by a member board of the American Board of Medical*
31 *Specialties or approved by the Medical Board of California.*
32 (b) A licensed physician shall also report to the board at the
33 time of license renewal, his or her practice status, designated as one
34 of the following:
35 (1) Full-time practice in California.



- 1 (2) Full-time practice outside of California.
- 2 (3) Part-time practice in California.
- 3 (4) Medical administrative employment that does not include
- 4 direct patient care.
- 5 (5) Retired.

6 ~~(6) Other.~~

7 ~~SEC. 2. Section 2425.3 is added to the Business and~~
8 ~~Professions Code, to read:~~

9 ~~2425.3. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to implement a~~
10 ~~system that allows a determination of the number of physicians~~
11 ~~with cultural or linguistic competency practicing medicine in~~
12 ~~California and allows for a determination of what areas of~~
13 ~~California are underserved by physicians with cultural or~~
14 ~~linguistic competency.~~

15 ~~(b) A licensed physician may report to the board at the time of~~
16 ~~his or her license renewal the following:~~

- 17 ~~(1) Cultural competency with regard to minority cultures.~~
- 18 ~~(2) Linguistic competency in a language or languages other~~
19 ~~than English.~~

20 ~~(c) (1) The board shall determine standards for the linguistic~~
21 ~~competency of physicians that shall be used in evaluating a~~
22 ~~physician's linguistic competency for purposes of subdivision (b).~~
23 ~~The board shall utilize the report made pursuant to subdivision (e)~~
24 ~~of Section 852 by the Task Force on Culturally and Linguistically~~
25 ~~Competent Physicians and Dentists in formulating the standards.~~

26 ~~(2) The board shall determine standards for cultural~~
27 ~~competency of physicians that shall be used in evaluating a~~
28 ~~physician's cultural competency for purposes of subdivision (b).~~
29 ~~The board shall utilize the report made pursuant to subdivision (e)~~
30 ~~of Section 852 by the Task Force on Culturally and Linguistically~~
31 ~~Competent Physicians and Dentists in formulating the standards.~~

32 ~~(c) A licensed physician may report to the board at the time of~~
33 ~~license renewal, and the board shall collect, information regarding~~
34 ~~his or her cultural background and foreign language proficiency.~~

35 ~~(d) The information collected pursuant to this section may be~~
36 ~~placed on the board's Internet Web site.~~

